Navy Case No. 84,512 Amendment Under Rule 116 Reply to Office action dated July 30, 2004

AMENDMENT TO THE CLAIMS

Listing of claims:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings of claims in the application.

Claim 1 (previously amended): An unmanned water surface vehicle comprising: a gondola housing section having bow and stern ends with external foils located midway between the bow and stern ends to provide lift in water at sufficient speed, said gondola housing section mounting a propulsion system at the stern end; a superstructure hull located entirely above a waterline and a strut connecting said gondola housing section to said superstructure hull completely above the waterline.

Claim 2 (Cancelled).

Claim 3 (Cancelled).

Claim 4 (Cancelled).

Claim 5 (Cancelled).

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Claim 6 (previously amended): An unmanned water surface vehicle as defined in claim 1, wherein said strut mounts a rudder above the stern end of the gondola housing section and the propulsion system.

Claim 7 (Cancelled).

Claim 8 (Cancelled).

Claim 9 (Cancelled).

Claim 10 (Cancelled).

Claim 11 (Cancelled).

Claim 12 (Cancelled).

Claim 13 (previously amended): An unmanned water surface vehicle comprising: a gondola housing having external foils spaced from a stern end thereof to provide lift in water at sufficient speed, a propulsion system at said stern end,

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a superstructure hull adapted to float on the water at sub foil lifting speeds,
means for connecting said gondola housing and said superstructure housing hull; and a rudder
mounted on said connecting means above the propulsion system at the stern end.

Claim 14 (Cancelled).

Claim 15 (Cancelled).

Claim 16 (previously amended): An unmanned water surface vehicle as defined in claim 13, wherein said means for connecting said gondola housing and said superstructure hull comprises; a faired strut.

Claim 17 (Cancelled).

Claim 18 (New): The water surface vehicle as defined in claim 13, wherein said means for connecting the gondola housing and the superstructure hull comprises: a strut extending between forward and aft ends of the vehicle in underlying relation to the hull; and said propulsion system including: a propulsion motor mounted within the gondola housing adjacent said stern end thereof; and a propeller connected to the propulsion motor positioned in rearwardly spaced relation to said aft end of the vehicle at which the rudder is mounted.